

Enhancing the Interface of the research repository at The Glasgow School of Art.

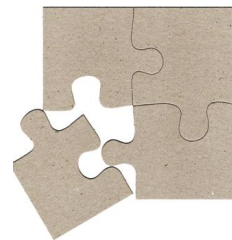
RADAR – Research, Art, Design, Architecture, Repository

Dr Robin Burgess
13th July 2012
(r.burgess@gsa.ac.uk)



Objectives

- To introduce the repository community to RADAR
- Describe the developmental process for the new repository
- Comment on impact and recommendations
- (And something a little different!)



Introduction

- Part of the JISC funded Repository Programme
- Commenced development in February 2011
- Project aim: To make significant improvements to the user interface and aesthetics of our research repository



Project Context

- Analyse and review existing repository system – structured approach
- Investigate methods to improve the system
- Address challenges in embedding the system at GSA and encouraging take-up by staff
- Enhance the user experience



Change Management

Radars

Logged in as Robin Burgess | Add Output | View/Edit Output | Profile | Search

Intro | Details | Submit | Profile Info

The Glasgow School of Art Repository

+	Information about the repository - workflow.
+	Help and guidance for using the repository.
+	Specific REF guidance.
+	Contact information.

Research Output Submission

Output Types	Description	Choice
Books (or parts of books)	?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Journal article + Conference Contributions	?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Physical artefacts.	?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Exhibitions + Performances	?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other documents	?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Digital artefacts (including web)	?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	?	<input type="checkbox"/>

①

once logged in, these are the only options a researcher can view. The Administrator will have additional options.

→ Progress bar.

This section gives relevant information for the user of the repository to help guide them through the process.

GSA Repository	
-	Info about system
+	Help
+	REF
+	Contact

On clicking on one of the '+' signs a drop down text field will appear giving the relevant information.

①

→ The next stage is to allow the researcher to start to input their outputs, one at a time.

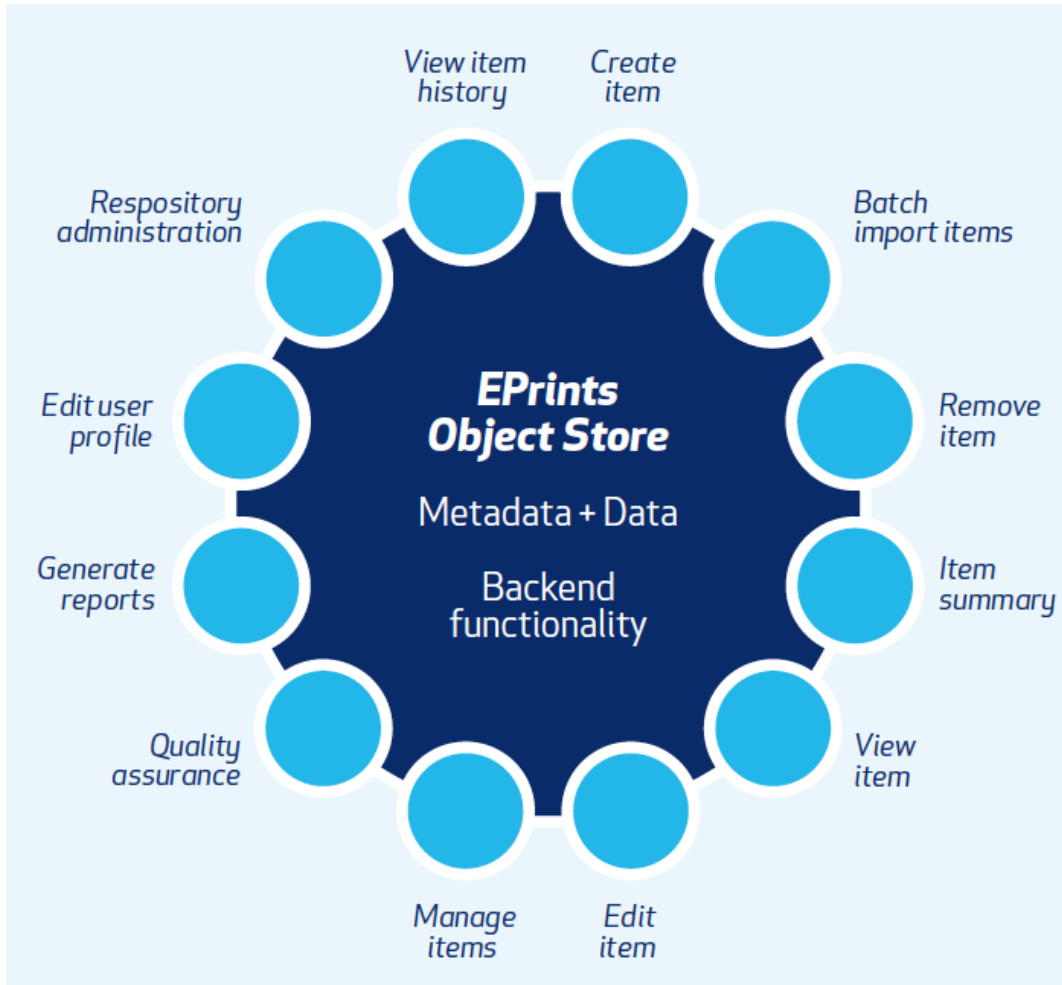
These are the output types as specified by REF. All outputs will fall under these options. The researcher needs to choose the most relevant type. To help with the decision making, a description of output types is provided by pressing on the '?'. Details will appear and then can be closed.

To make your choice of output type the researcher will need to 'check' the box next to their choice. On doing this the researcher will be taken to the next section of the repository where output details can be recorded. The specifics of what needs to be recorded against a research output type have not been specified by REF yet. EPrints are working with HEFCE on this to make sure EPrints repositories are compatible with the REF process.

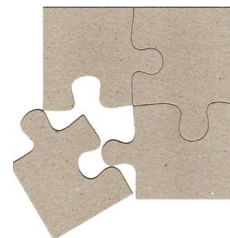
- Identified the need for an improved system for users
- Investigated available options
- Developed requirements
- Talked to users of the system
- Reviewed other systems
- Initial designs drawn up
- Initiated involvement with Eprint Services



EPrints



- Functions available through EPrints
- Varied and numerous
- Suited our needs
- Commonly used by Arts Institutes
- Kultivate project



Our New Repository - RADAR

- Positive feedback from Repository Fringe and the tune performed has been a success (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EKI2yK64RVc>)
- Development has been instigated with EPrints
- First iteration made available 1st November 2011
- Testing taken place while carrying out a Mock REF exercise
- Integration of new repository with the new GSA website, liaison with ScreenMedia to achieve this
- Alterations made to the standard EPrints workflow to accommodate the needs of GSA researchers
- System becoming embedded in the ethos of GSA
- Proposed 'Go Live' date – 6th January 2012



Images

Radars

Logged in as Robin Burgess | Add Output | View/Edit Output | Profile | Search

Unvo | Details | Submit | Profile Info

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RADAR

Home | About | Browse by Year | Browse by Division | ...

Logged in as Robin Burgess | Manage deposits | Profile | Saved searches | Logout

Edit item: **Article #2058**

Type → Details → Upload → Deposit

Save for Later | Cancel | Next >

Item Type

(Parts of) Books

- Book
A book or a conference volume.
- Edited Book
An edited book or a conference volume.
- Book Section
A chapter or section in a book.

Journal articles

- Article
An article in a journal, magazine, newspaper. Not necessarily peer-reviewed. May be an electronic-only medium, such as an online journal or news website.
- Conference or Workshop Item
A paper, poster, speech, lecture or presentation given at a conference, workshop or other event. If the conference item has been published in a journal or book then please use "Book Section" or "Article" instead.

Physical artefacts

- Artefact
An artist's artefact or work product.

Exhibitions and performances

- Show/Exhibition
An artist's exhibition or site specific performance-based deposit.
- Performance
Performance of a musical event.

Sketches converted into improved EPrints interface

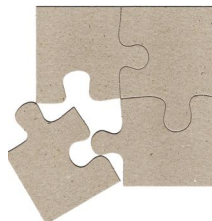
Flow of execution for repository: (1) Login, (2) Add Item, (3) Describe item, (4) Add supporting evidence, (5) Review item, (6) Submit for review and final depositing in RADAR



Images

The screenshot shows the GSA website interface. At the top, the GSA logo is visible. Below it, there are navigation tabs: Study, Life, Research, Visit GSA, About GSA, and Support GSA. A search bar is located in the top right corner. On the left side, there is a vertical navigation menu with options like Home, Browse, Year, School, GSA Author, Search, Latest, Policies, Contact Us, User Menu, Manage Outputs, Manage Records, Profile, Saved searches, Review, Admin, REF2014, Edit page, Logout, and Robin Burgess. The main content area features two large images. The left image is a sculpture of a tree, and the right image is a circular artwork. Below the images, there are sections for 'WELCOME', 'BROWSE THE REPOSITORY', and 'Latest items'. The 'WELCOME' section states: 'RADAR is a digital archive of research and enterprise output produced by Glasgow School of Art staff.' The 'BROWSE THE REPOSITORY' section has a dropdown menu for 'Browse collection by' with options for Year, School, and GSA Author. The 'Latest items' section lists two items: 'Burgess, Robin (2012) A collection of GSA material [Show/Exhibition]' and 'Cooper, Thomas Joshua (2007) Running to the sea. Fundacion César Manrique, Ilas Lanzarote, The Canary Islands, Spain; Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid, Spain. Item not available from this repository.' At the bottom, there is a footer that reads: 'RADAR supports OAI 2.0 with a base URL of http://radar.gsa.ac.uk/oai/oa12'.

- RADAR follows the standard EPrints process
- Observable features
- Design implemented by ScreenMedia to fit with the new GSA website



Images

The screenshot displays the GSA website interface. At the top, the GSA logo is centered. Below it, a navigation menu includes 'Study', 'Life', 'Research', 'Visit GSA', 'About GSA', and 'Support GSA'. A search bar is located on the right. The main content area features a grid of image thumbnails with captions: 'Playmobil hospital', 'Photographic image', 'Computer animation', 'Aerial view of plans', 'Making a statement', and 'Arts, crafts, designs'. A sidebar on the left contains various navigation options like 'Home', 'Browse', 'Year', 'School', 'GSA Author', 'Search', 'Latest', 'Policies', 'Contact Us', 'User Menu', 'Manage Outputs', 'Manage Records', 'Profile', 'Saved searches', 'Review', 'Admin', 'REF2014', 'Logout', and 'Robin Burgess'. A 'Tools' section is visible at the bottom left of the main content area, and a 'Repository Staff Only: item control page' link is at the bottom right.

- Flexibility in the output types
- Different views
- Search functions
- Much more flexibility for users



RADAR Current Use

The screenshot displays the REF2014 interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs: Life, Research, Visit GSA, About GSA, and Support GSA. The main content area is titled 'REF Tools' and includes buttons for 'REF1 REPORTS', 'REF2 REPORTS', and 'MANAGE BENCHMARKS'. Below these is a 'REF Benchmark' section with a 'Test (*)' button. A 'Selecting for' dropdown menu is open, showing a list of names including Nick Bell, David Bellingham, Nicky Bird, Jim Birrell, Ross Birrell, Jonathan Boyd, Elaine Bremner, Ronan Breslin, Susan Brind, Robin Burgess (highlighted), Elio Caccavale, Brian Cairns, John Calcutt, Robyne Calvert, Justin Carter, Paul Chapman, Thomas Joshua Cooper, Paul Cosgrove, Ben Craven, and Joanna Crotch. Below the list, a breadcrumb trail reads 'Robin Burgess (Category A) Main panel D > D34 Art and Design - History, Practice and Theory'. The 'SELECTIONS' section shows one item: '1. D34 Art and Design - History, Practice and Theory' with a description 'A collection of GSA material' and 'Remove Add Info' links. The 'ADD SELECTIONS' section contains search instructions and a search form with 'SEARCH' and 'RESET THE FORM' buttons. At the bottom, there are input fields for 'Full Text' and 'Title' with 'all of' and a question mark icon.

- Currently applying the system for REF purposes
- Implementing the EPrints REF Module
- Reviewing and Administration



Staff Profiles

GSFA

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Supervisors + Students
Primary Supervisors

PRIMARY SUPERVISORS

Dr Nicky Bird
Artist, photography and social narratives, hidden histories

Dr Ross Birrell
Conceptual artist, writer, film maker

Susan Brind
Sculptor, images, text, mind and body

Professor Thomas Joshua Cooper
Artist, photography

Arts & Humanities Research Council Design in Action PhDs
Two funded PhDs available at The Glasgow School of Art via the AHRC Design in Action Knowledge Exchange Hub - deadline 28 April

Justin Carter
Lecturer: sustainability, ecology and art

Dr Eilish Dancie
Reader in Screen Studies; Postgraduate Coordinator

Dr Laura Gonzalez
Artist, writer - film, dance, photography and text

Dr Sarah Louwides
Lecturer, curator and writer

Dr Francis McKee
Curator, contemporary art in society and culture

Professor Irene McAra McWilliam
Head of School of Design; Design Innovation

Dr Minhua Eunice Ma
Reader in Innovation + games technology, Digital Design Studio

Professor Tom Mavor
Research Professor, Macintosh School of Architecture

GSFA

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search

Supervisors + Students
Primary Supervisors

Life

Name:
Ross Sinclair

Job Title:
Lecturer

Department:
School of Fine Art

Contact:
T: +44 (0)141 353 4574
E: r.sinclair@gsa.ac.uk

Image:
Ross Sinclair
Installation, 2007

PROFILE

My main areas of research have been informed and developed through working Internationally as a practicing artist over the past 25 years. I have worked extensively in public and private spaces, museums, galleries etc. and have a wide experience of exhibition practice, installation and contextually related practice. I have utilised a wide array of formal approaches over the years including Sculpture, Video, Painting, Text and have sought to interrogate how these different formal approaches can contribute to the construction and dissemination of meaning in relation to audience. These are all areas which inform my research interests.

I have particularly explored the paradigm of art practice in context, in relation to audience, and have a broad interest in the debates surrounding 'Relational' practice and socially engaged art practice. Many of my own works and projects over the years have been made directly in response to various pertinent contextual elements of the political, economic, geographic, historical etc. I am interested in the idea of "The Audience" of art. Who are they? What is "The Public"? And how do they contribute to the process, definition and articulation of contemporary of Art practice.

Support GSA

Ross Sinclair | View Ross' Academic CV

rosssinclair.com | Visit the artist's own website

Outcomes and Users

- Improved front and back end repository
- Improved support for non-text items
- Connection and buy-in from users
- Enhanced system based on aesthetics and user needs
- Greater interoperability
- Internal Users: Students, academic staff, support staff, managers
- External Users: Academics, students, researchers, practitioners, Research assessors, repository community



Impact

- Improved depositing of research outputs by academic staff
- Greater sharing of information between schools at GSA
- Improved collaborative research and knowledge exchange
- Impact on the approach to REF
- Record keeping of research outputs
- Alignment of GSA with other institutes with regard to research repositories
- Enhanced knowledge of digital data management



Recommendations

- Research and review options available
- Discuss with staff and those the system will impact
- Compile a detailed requirements document, this may change with time however
- Keep in communication with staff and developers
- Determine cut off points



Future Developments and Summary

- Continued work on the REF module
- Investigating links with other GSA systems housed in the library
- Kaptur project

“Databases are simple and have well defined query semantics. Repositories are complex socio-technical phenomena which embody the values and policies of multiple, conflicting scholarly communities”



Final Comment

“RADAR, our new repository”

By Robin Burgess